(b) if there is no such policy as yet, whether any policy is proposed to be evolved now?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Within the framework of energy policy, a number of programmes like National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD), popularisation of improved chulhas and solar cookers etc. have been initiated to conserve fuelwood and improve efficiency of utilisation of agro residues and animal wastes. Energy Plantation Demonstration on wasteland has also been taken up to increase fuelwood supply to the rural population.

Construction of Super Thermal Power Plant at Talcher

3012. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) by when the construction of super thermal power plant at Talcher is likely to be commenced;

(b) what would be the estimated cost of this super thermal power project;

(c) by when this project is likely to be completed, and

(d) what would be the generation capacity of this plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (d) Construction work on the Talcher Super Thermal Power Projetc Stage-I (2x500 MW) would commence after its approval by Government. The present estimated cost of Stage-I of the project, alongwith associated transmission lines, is Rs. 1291 crores.

A 500 MW unit normality takes about five years for commissioning after placement of orders for main plant equipment.

Prices of filament yarn

3013 SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of filament yarn have been raised by Rs. 10,000 per tonne in the past few weeks and the current yarn prices are higher by 21 per cent as compared to the fair prices recommended by BICP; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) As reported by the Industry, the prices of Filament Yarn have not been raised in the past few weeks and since BICP has not submitted its report, no comparison in prices can be drawn at this stage.

Import of gas turbines

3014. SHRI HARI SINGH NALWA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that orders for Gas Turbines have been placed with M/s. Mitsubishi, Alstromand and Brown Boueri;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for placing orders on these foreign companies instead of BHEL;

(c) what is the amount of foreign exchange to be incurred on the procurement of these turbines; and

(d) whether Government have ensured that no agents were involved in the award of these contracts to the foreign companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a)

to (d) Orders for main plant equipment in respect of the Anta and Auraiya plants have been placed on M/s. Brown Boveri and Cie, West Germany and M/s. Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Japan, respectively. Pre-award discussions are at an advanced stage with M/s. ALSTHOM, France in regard to the Kawas project. These stations would be World Bank-assisted projects for which the equipments are procurred through International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures, as per the Bank's guidelines. M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals do not manufacture gas turbines of the size required for these projects. The foreign exchange requirements are proposed to be met, to the Maximum possible extent, from assistance of the World Bank and other financial institutions.

As per bid documents, no Indian agent's commission is payable to any Indian agent/local representative with regard to M/s. Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Japan and M/s. Brown Boveri & Cie, West Germany. M/s. Alsthom have indicated in their bid for the Kawas project that M/s. Batliboi & Co., Bombay, would receive a commission equal to 0.30 per cent of the contract price which is included in the total price of M/s. Alsthom's offer for carrying out duties in regard to all matters concerning M/s. Alsthom's tender,, including tender submission and attending tender opening.

Industrial and Licensing Policies

3015. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the Government's industrial and licensing policies as approved by all administrative Ministries; and

(b) what are the recommendations of the World Bank in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Industrial Policy Resolution, 1956 and the Industrial Policy Statement of July 23, 1980 continue to provide the basic framework of the industrial and licensing policies of the Govt.

(b) The annual report of World Bank to donor countries on salient features of economy is an internal document of the World Bank. It is not published and its distribution is restricted and the recipients are not authorise to disclose its contents.

Soft Drink Makers

3016. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether notices were issued against soft drink makers for jacking up the prices of soft drinks in collusion with one another, by the Director General of Investigation and Registration;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) by when appropriate action is likely to be taken against these soft drink makers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM). (a) to (c) The MRTP Commission has directed Director General of Investigation and Registration (DGI&R) to investigate and report whether the soft drink manufacturers are indulging in the trade practice of manipulation of prices in such a manner as to impose unjustified cost on the consumers Accordingly, DGI&R has issued letters to nine soft drink makers calling for details regarding their cost and price structure, effect of the Budget for the year